

CLAIMS:

1. A method for optimizing a download of requested data to an electronic data processing unit that is currently receiving unrequested multicast data through a router included in a network, the unrequested multicast data corresponding to at least one multicast data group, the method comprising the steps of:
5 sending (220) Internet Group Management Protocol (IGMP) V2 Leave Messages for the at least one multicast data group to the router; and
ignoring (240) IGMP Membership Queries for the at least one multicast data group issued by the router so as to cause the router to terminate a transmission of the unrequested multicast data to free up available bandwidth for the download of the requested data.
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2. The method of claim 1, wherein the requested data comprises at least one of configuration data and program guide data.
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3. The method of claim 1, wherein said ignoring step comprises the step of preventing a transmission of an IGMP Membership Report to the router in response to the IGMP Membership Queries.
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4. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of downloading (260) the requested data while the transmission of the unrequested multicast data has been terminated.
- 25 5. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of sensing a receipt of any multicast data so as to identify group numbers of the multicast data.
6. In an network having a router, a system for optimizing a download of requested data occurring concurrently with a receipt of unrequested multicast data from the router, the unrequested multicast data corresponding to at least one multicast data group, the system comprising:
30 an electronic data processing unit (110) for sending Internet Group Management Protocol (IGMP) V2 Leave Group Messages for the at least one multicast data group to the router, and for ignoring IGMP Membership Queries for

the at least one multicast data group issued by the router so as to cause the router to terminate a transmission of the unrequested multicast data to free up available bandwidth for the download of the requested data.

5 7. The system of claim 6, wherein the requested data comprises at least one of configuration data and program guide data.

 8. The system of claim 6, wherein said electronic data processing unit
10 (110) ignores the IGMP Membership Queries by preventing a transmission of an IGMP Membership Report to the router in response to the IGMP Membership Queries.

 9. The system of claim 6, wherein said electronic data processing unit
15 (110) further downloads the requested data while the transmission of the unrequested multicast data group has been terminated.

 10. The system of claim 6, wherein said electronic data processing unit
20 (110) further senses a receipt of any multicast data so as to identify group numbers of the multicast data.

 11. The system of claim 6, further comprising a modem connected in
between the electronic data processing unit and the router for exchanging
information there between.

25 12. The system of claim 11, wherein the modem is adapted for use with Asymmetrical Digital Subscriber Line (ADSL).

 13. A program storage device readable by machine, tangibly embodying a
program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps for
30 optimizing a download of requested data to an electronic data processing unit that is currently receiving unrequested multicast data through a router included in a network, the unrequested multicast data corresponding to at least one multicast data group, the method steps comprising:

sending (220) Internet Group Management Protocol (IGMP) V2 Leave Messages for the at least one multicast data group to the router; and

5 ignoring (240) IGMP Membership Queries for the at least one multicast data group issued by the router so as to cause the router to terminate a transmission of the unrequested multicast data to free up available bandwidth for the download of the requested data.

10 14. The program storage device of claim 13, wherein the requested data comprises at least one of configuration data and program guide data.

15 15. The program storage device of claim 13, wherein said ignoring step comprises the step of preventing a transmission of an IGMP Membership Report to the router in response to the IGMP Membership Queries.

16. The program storage device of claim 13, further comprising the step of downloading (260) the requested data while the transmission of the unrequested multicast data has been terminated.

20 17. The program storage device of claim 13, further comprising the step of sensing a receipt of any multicast data so as to identify group numbers of the multicast data.